



(11)

EP 4 461 430 A1

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

published in accordance with Art. 153(4) EPC

(43) Date of publication:
13.11.2024 Bulletin 2024/46

(51) International Patent Classification (IPC):
B21D 22/26 ^(2006.01) **B21D 22/30** ^(2006.01)

(21) Application number: **23752750.2**

(52) Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC):
B21D 22/26; B21D 22/30

(22) Date of filing: **01.02.2023**

(86) International application number:
PCT/JP2023/003198

(87) International publication number:
WO 2023/153285 (17.08.2023 Gazette 2023/33)

(84) Designated Contracting States:
**AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB
 GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC ME MK MT NL
 NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR**
 Designated Extension States:
BA
 Designated Validation States:
KH MA MD TN

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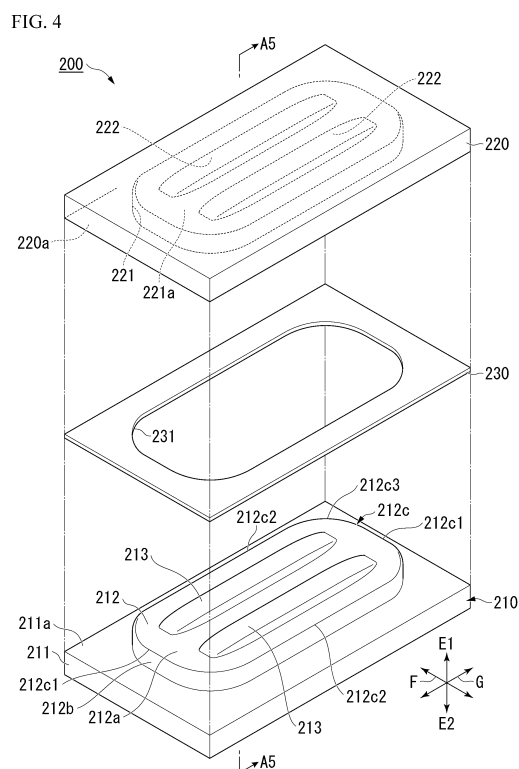
(30) Priority: **10.02.2022 JP 2022019563**

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(54) **PRESS-FORMING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING PRESS-FORMED ARTICLE**

(57) This press-forming apparatus includes a punch, a die, and a blank holder, in which the punch has a top surface, a side surface, and a punch shoulder disposed between the top surface and the side surface, the punch shoulder has a punch shoulder straight portion extending with a radius of curvature of 500 mm or more and a punch shoulder curved portion extending with a radius of curvature of less than 500 mm, a portion adjacent to the punch shoulder curved portion in the top surface convexly protrudes toward an outside of the top surface, the top surface has a protrusion protruding in a pressing direction, the protrusion extends along an extension direction in which the punch shoulder straight portion extends, a bottom surface of a die hole of the die has a shape corresponding to the top surface, and the blank holder is disposed to face a sheet pressing surface of the die.



Description

[Technical Field of the Invention]

[0001] The present invention relates to a press-forming apparatus and a method for producing a press-formed article. 5

[0002] This application claims the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2022-019563 filed with the Japan Patent Office on February 10, 2022, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference. 10

[Related Art]

[0003] In the related art, there is a press-forming apparatus that forms a formed article having a desired shape by drawing in which in a state where end portions of a material having a thin thickness are clamped with high strength, the material is sandwiched and pressed between a die and a punch (refer to, for example, Patent Document 1). 15 20

[Prior Art Document]

[Patent Document] 25

[0004] [Patent Document 1] Japanese Patent No. 2560416

[Disclosure of the Invention] 30

[Problems to be Solved by the Invention]

[0005] However, in the drawing by the press-forming apparatus of the related art, there is a concern that a problem such as wrinkles or cracking may occur in the vicinity of a curved portion of a formed article. 35

[0006] In view of the problem in the related art described above, the present invention has an object to provide a press-forming apparatus capable of suppressing a problem occurring in a curved portion of a formed article, and a method for producing a press-formed article. 40

[Means for Solving the Problem] 45

[0007] In order to solve the above problem, the present invention proposes the following means.

(1) Aspect 1 of the present invention is a press-forming apparatus including; a punch; a die; and a blank holder, in which the punch has a top surface, a side surface, and a punch shoulder disposed between the top surface and the side surface, the punch shoulder has a punch shoulder straight portion extending with a radius of curvature of 500 mm or more and a punch shoulder curved portion extending with a radius of curvature of less than 500 mm, a 50 55

portion adjacent to the punch shoulder curved portion in the top surface convexly protrudes toward an outside of the top surface, the top surface has a protrusion protruding in a pressing direction, the protrusion extends along an extension direction in which the punch shoulder straight portion extends, a bottom surface of a die hole of the die has a shape corresponding to the top surface, and the blank holder is disposed to face a sheet pressing surface of the die.

(2) Aspect 2 of the present invention may be the press-forming apparatus according to the above (1), in which when viewed from the pressing direction, an interval in the extension direction between a tip end of the protrusion in the extension direction and a center of the punch shoulder straight portion is 40% or more of a length of the punch shoulder straight portion in the extension direction.

(3) Aspect 3 of the present invention may be the press-forming apparatus according to the above (1) or (2), in which when viewed from the pressing direction, the tip end portion of the protrusion is located between a first straight line passing between the punch shoulder straight portion and the punch shoulder curved portion and perpendicular to the extension direction and a second straight line passing through a center portion of the punch shoulder curved portion and parallel to the first straight line.

(4) Aspect 4 of the present invention may be the press-forming apparatus according to any one of the above (1) to (3), in which in a cross section passing through the protrusion and perpendicular to the extension direction, a length of a surface of the protrusion is larger than 1.2 times a width of the protrusion perpendicular to the pressing direction.

(5) Aspect 5 of the present invention may be the press-forming apparatus according to any one of the above (1) to (4), in which in a cross section passing through the protrusion and along each of the pressing direction and the extension direction, an angle formed by a surface of a tip end portion of the protrusion in the extension direction and the pressing direction is 30° or larger.

(6) Aspect 6 of the present invention may be the press-forming apparatus according to any one of the above (1) to (5), in which when viewed from the pressing direction, a centroid of the top surface is located inside a top portion of 20% or more of a height in the pressing direction of the protrusion.

(7) Aspect 7 of the present invention may be the press-forming apparatus according to any one of the above (1) to (6), in which an angle formed by two punch shoulder straight portions located on both sides of the punch shoulder curved portion is an acute angle.

(8) Aspect 8 of the present invention is a method for producing a press-formed article using the press-forming apparatus according to any one of the above

(1) to (7), the method including: clamping a metal sheet by using the die and the blank holder; and drawing the metal sheet with the press-forming apparatus, in which tensile strength of the metal sheet is 980 MPa or more.

(9) Aspect 9 of the present invention may be the method for producing a press-formed article according to the above (8), further including: removing a portion formed in the metal sheet by the protrusion.

[Effects of the Invention]

[0008] According to the press-forming apparatus and the method for producing a press-formed article of the present invention, it is possible to suppress a problem occurring in a curved portion of a formed article.

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[0009]

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a press-formed article manufactured by a press-forming apparatus according to one embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a plan view of the press-formed article.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of an annular component manufactured from the press-formed article.

FIG. 4 is an exploded perspective view of the press-forming apparatus.

FIG. 5 is a sectional view of the press-forming apparatus before drawing a metal sheet.

FIG. 6 is a plan view of a punch of the press-forming apparatus.

FIG. 7 is a sectional view taken along cutting-plane line A1-A1 in FIG. 6.

FIG. 8 is a sectional view taken along cutting-plane line A2-A2 in FIG. 6.

FIG. 9 is a flowchart showing a method for producing a press-formed article according to one embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 10 is a sectional view of the press-forming apparatus during drawing the metal sheet.

FIG. 11 is a sectional view of the press-forming apparatus after drawing the metal sheet.

FIG. 12 is a plan view showing an inflow state of a metal sheet in a main part of a comparative example press-formed article.

FIG. 13 is a plan view showing an inflow state of a metal sheet in a main part of the press-formed article.

FIG. 14 is a diagram showing a change in sheet thickness reduction rate ratio with respect to a value of (De/Ds) .

FIG. 15 is a diagram showing a change in sheet thickness reduction rate ratio with respect to a line length ratio (Lp/Ls) .

FIG. 16 is a diagram showing a change in sheet thickness reduction rate ratio with respect to a depth H_p .

FIG. 17 is a plan view of a press-formed article of a first modification example of one embodiment.

FIG. 18 is a diagram showing a change in sheet thickness reduction rate ratio with respect to a value of (De/Ds) in the press-formed article of the first modification example.

FIG. 19 is a perspective view of a press-formed article of a second modification example of one embodiment.

FIG. 20 is a perspective view of a press-formed article of a third modification example of the embodiment.

FIG. 21 is a perspective view of a press-formed article of a fourth modification example of one embodiment.

FIG. 22 is a perspective view of an annular component of the first modification example of one embodiment.

FIG. 23 is a perspective view of an annular component of the second modification example of one embodiment.

FIG. 24 is a perspective view of an annular component of the third modification example of the embodiment.

[Embodiments of the Invention]

[0010] Hereinafter, one embodiment of a press-forming apparatus and a method for producing a press-formed article according to the present invention will be described with reference to FIGS. 1 to 24.

[0011] In the following, first, an annular component that is manufactured by the press-forming apparatus and the method for producing a press-formed article, and a press-formed article that is an intermediate formed product which is formed during the manufacturing of the annular component will be described.

[Press-formed Article]

[0012] As shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, for example, a press-formed article 100A includes a top sheet 10, a peripheral wall 20, and a flange 30. The press-formed article 100A has a deep dish shape.

[0013] The top sheet 10 has a polygonal shape with rounded corners when viewed in a thickness direction of the top sheet 10. In this example, the top sheet 10 has a rectangular shape with rounded corners in which corners of a rectangular shape having a long side and a short side are rounded. That is, there is a long side or a short side between two rounded corners.

[0014] A protrusion portion 11 is formed on the top sheet 10. In this example, two protrusion portions 11 are formed on the top sheet 10. Each protrusion portion 11 protrudes in a thickness direction (protrusion direction) D1 of a first surface 10a side of the top sheet 10. Here, the surface of the top sheet 10 on the side opposite to the first surface 10a is referred to as a second surface

10b. That is, the outer side surface of the deep dish shape of the top sheet 10 is the first surface 10a, and the inner side surface of the deep dish shape of the top sheet 10 is the second surface 10b.

[0015] Each protrusion portion 11 is a groove extending in a direction along the long side when viewed from the second surface 10b of the top sheet 10. The two protrusion portions 11 are disposed to be spaced apart from each other in a direction along the short side of the top sheet 10. The two protrusion portions 11 are disposed in a middle portion of the top sheet 10 when viewed in the thickness direction of the top sheet 10. That is, a flat surface due to the second surface 10b is formed between each protrusion portion 11 and the edge of the second surface 10b.

[0016] The peripheral wall 20 protrudes in a counter-protrusion direction D2 opposite to the protrusion direction D1 from the edge of the top sheet 10. The peripheral wall 20 is formed over the whole circumference of the edge of the top sheet 10. The angle formed by the second surface 10b of the top sheet 10 and the peripheral wall 20 may be an obtuse angle or may be a right angle.

[0017] The flange 30 protrudes from an end portion of the peripheral wall 20 in the counter-protrusion direction D2 toward the outside of the peripheral wall 20. The flange 30 is formed over the whole circumference of the peripheral wall 20.

[0018] The shape of the press-formed article 100A is not limited to this. For example, the press-formed article 100A does not need to have the flange 30.

[Annular Component]

[0019] As shown in FIG. 3, an annular component 100 is manufactured by removing the middle portion of the top sheet 10, which includes the two protrusion portions 11 in the top sheet 10, from the press-formed article 100A. A through-hole 12 is formed in the top sheet 10 from which the middle portion is removed. The through-hole 12 penetrates the top sheet 10 in the thickness direction of the top sheet 10.

[0020] For example, the annular component 100 can be applied to a frame such as a window frame of a vehicle or a component configuring an A-pillar.

[Press-forming Apparatus]

[0021] Next, a press-forming apparatus will be described.

[0022] As shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, a press-forming apparatus 200 includes a punch 210, a die 220, a blank holder 230, and a biasing member 240. In FIG. 4, the biasing member 240 is not shown. The biasing member 240 may be a member such as a hydraulic mechanism that is used in a conventional press-forming apparatus. FIG. 5 is a sectional view taken along cutting-plane line A5-A5 in FIG. 4.

[0023] The punch 210 includes a base 211, a punch

portion 212, and a protrusion 213. The punch portion 212 and the protrusion 213 are essential. However, the base 211 does not need to be provided. In a case where the base 211 is not provided, the biasing member 240 is supported on a separate foundation from the punch 210.

[0024] For example, the base 211 is formed in a flat plate shape.

[0025] The punch portion 212 is formed in a shape corresponding to the top sheet 10 and the peripheral wall 20 of the press-formed article 100A. The punch portion 212 protrudes from a middle portion of a surface 211a of the base 211 facing the thickness direction of the base 211. The punch portion 212 is formed in a tapered shape in which a cross-sectional area orthogonal to the protrusion direction is narrowed as a protruding length increases. In other words, the punch portion 212 is formed in a truncated square pyramid shape with rounded corners. The punch portion 212 has a rectangular shape with rounded corners, in which the corners of a rectangular shape having a long side and a short side are rounded when viewed in the protrusion direction, to correspond to the top sheet 10 of the press-formed article 100A.

[0026] The pressing direction is a direction in which the die and the punch are moved toward an object to be formed during press forming. When the die 220 moves toward the punch 210 during press forming, the pressing direction is E2 in FIGS. 4 and 5. When the punch 210 moves toward the die 220 during press forming, the pressing direction is E1 in FIGS. 4 and 5. There is no difference in forming as long as there is no difference in the relative positional relationship between the die and the punch in the pressing direction of either E1 or E2. Therefore, in a general description, the pressing direction means the axial directions of E1 and E2, and the direction of the pressing direction is not considered. In the following description, in order to make it easier to understand the description of the present disclosure, the direction from the punch 210 toward the die 220 in the pressing direction is referred to as a pressing direction E1 and the direction from the die 220 toward the punch 210 in the pressing direction is referred to as a counter-pressing direction E2. A direction (hereinafter, referred to as a short side direction) F along a short side of the punch portion 212, and a direction (hereinafter, referred to as a long side direction, an extension direction) G along a long side of the punch portion 212 are orthogonal to the pressing direction E1.

[0027] The punch portion 212 has a convex shape toward the die 220. The punch portion 212 is formed with a top surface 212a, a side surface 212b, and a punch shoulder 212c.

[0028] The top surface 212a is a tip end surface of the punch portion 212 in the pressing direction E1.

[0029] The side surface 212b is a side surface of the punch portion 212 with respect to the pressing direction E1. The side surface 212b is formed over the whole circumference around the edge of the top surface 212a.

[0030] The punch shoulder 212c is disposed (at a

connection portion) between the top surface 212a and the side surface 212b of the punch portion 212. In other words, the top surface 212a and the side surface 212b are connected to each other via the punch shoulder 212c. The punch shoulder 212c is a ridge between the top surface 212a and the side surface 212b.

[0031] As shown in FIG. 4, the punch shoulder 212c includes punch shoulder straight portions 212c1 and 212c2 and a punch shoulder curved portion 212c3.

[0032] The punch shoulder straight portions 212c1 and 212c2 extend with a radius of curvature of 500 mm or more. In this example, the punch shoulder straight portion 212c1 extends along the short side direction F. In this example, the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2 extends along the long side direction G.

[0033] The punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 extends with a radius of curvature of less than 500 mm. The punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 is connected to an end portion in the short side direction F of the punch shoulder straight portion 212c1 and an end portion in the long side direction G of the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2. The center angle of the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 as viewed from the pressing direction E1 (viewed along the pressing direction E1) is about 90°.

[0034] The portion adjacent to the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 in the top surface 212a convexly protrudes toward the outside of the top surface 212a along the top surface 212a.

[0035] As shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, in this example, the punch 210 has two protrusions 213 corresponding to the two protrusion portions 11 of the press-formed article 100A. The two protrusions 213 protrude in the pressing direction E1 from the top surface 212a of the punch portion 212. That is, the top surface 212a of the punch portion 212 has two protrusions 213 protruding in the pressing direction E1. The protrusion 213 protrudes toward the die 220. This does not change regardless of whether the pressing direction that is defined by the moving direction of the die and the punch during press forming is the pressing direction E1 or the counter-pressing direction E2.

[0036] Each protrusion 213 extends along the long side direction G. The two protrusions 213 are disposed to be spaced apart from each other in the short side direction F. Each protrusion 213 is not formed on the edge of the top surface 212a of the punch portion 212, and is formed at the middle portion of the top surface 212a. That is, a flat surface due to the top surface 212a is formed between the protrusion 213 and the edge of the top surface 212a.

[0037] As shown in FIG. 6, here, a plane passing through the end of the punch shoulder straight portion 212c1 and orthogonal to the punch shoulder straight portion 212c1 is defined as a plane P5. A plane passing through the end of the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2 and orthogonal to the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2 is defined as a plane P6. The planes P5

and P6 are also planes passing through the end of the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 and orthogonal to the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3.

[0038] When the press-formed article 100A is manufactured by the press-forming apparatus 200, planes that coincide with the planes P5 and P6 are defined as planes P5A and P6A, as shown in FIG. 2.

[0039] A portion of the flange 30 sandwiched between the two planes P5A is defined as a flange straight portion 33a. A portion of the flange 30 sandwiched between the two planes P6A is defined as a flange straight portion 33b. A portion of the flange 30 sandwiched by the planes P5A and P6A is defined as a flange curved portion 33c.

[0040] When viewed from the pressing direction E1 shown in FIG. 6, the interval in the long side direction G between the tip end on a first side G1 in the long side direction G of the protrusion 213 and the center of the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2 is defined as an interval L1. The interval L1 is preferably 40% or more of the length in the long side direction G of the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2. Here, when viewed from the pressing direction E1, a first straight line M1 passing through (a connection portion) between the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2 and the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 and perpendicular to the long side direction G is defined. The first straight line M1 is included in the plane P6. When viewed from the pressing direction E1, a second straight line M2 passing through a center portion along a longitudinal direction of the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 and parallel to the first straight line M1 is defined. At this time, when viewed from the pressing direction E1, the tip end on the first side G1 in the long side direction G of the protrusion 213 is preferably located between the first straight line M1 and the second straight line M2.

[0041] FIG. 7 shows a cross section passing through the protrusion 213 and perpendicular to the long side direction G. The direction perpendicular to the pressing direction E1 and along this cross section is the short side direction F. In this cross section, the length of the surface of the protrusion 213 is preferably larger than 1.2 times the width of the protrusion 213 in the short side direction F.

[0042] Here, the cross section along each of the pressing direction E1 and the long side direction G is a cross section perpendicular to the short side direction F. FIG. 8 shows a cross section passing through the protrusion 213 and perpendicular to the short side direction F. In this cross section, an angle $\theta 1$ formed by the surface of the tip end portion in the long side direction G of the protrusion 213 and the pressing direction E1 is preferably 30° or larger.

[0043] In a case of manufacturing the press-formed article shown in FIG. 17, when viewed from the pressing direction E1, the centroid of the top surface 212a of the punch portion 212 is preferably located inside a top portion of 20% or more of the height in the pressing direction E1 of the protrusion 213. The centroid of the top surface 212a referred to herein means the centroid of

the top surface 212a when the protrusion 213 is not formed on the top surface 212a. The top portion of 20% or more of the height in the pressing direction E1 of the protrusion 213 means the range of 20% of the height in the pressing direction E1 of the protrusion 213 in the counter-pressing direction E2 from the end of the protrusion 213 in the pressing direction E1.

[0044] Even in a case where the press-formed article of FIG. 2 is press-formed or even in a case where the press-formed article of FIG. 17 is press-formed, when viewed from the pressing direction E1, an angle θ_2 formed by the two punch shoulder straight portions 212c1 and 212c2 on both sides of the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 shown in FIG. 6 is an acute angle, so that the effects of the present disclosure are likely to be exhibited.

[0045] As shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, for example, the die 220 is a lump of metal. The surface of the die 220 facing the counter-pressing direction E2 is a sheet pressing surface 220a.

[0046] A die hole 211 which is recessed in the shape of the punch portion 212 is formed on the sheet pressing surface 220a of the die 220. A bottom surface 221a of the die hole 221 has a shape corresponding to the top surface 212a of the punch 210. In other words, the bottom surface 221a has a shape in which the unevenness of the top surface 212a is inverted in the pressing direction E1. Strictly speaking, the bottom surface 221a has a shape in which the top surface 212a is increased by an amount corresponding to the sheet thickness of a metal sheet S (described later) along the top surface 212a to the outside of the edge of the top surface 212a.

[0047] Two recessed portions 222 corresponding to the two protrusions 213 of the punch 210 are formed on the bottom surface 221a of the die hole 221. Each recessed portion 222 extends along the long side direction G. The two recessed portions 222 are disposed to be spaced apart from each other in the short side direction F.

[0048] For example, the blank holder 230 is formed in a flat plate shape. A through-hole 231 corresponding to the punch portion 212 of the punch 210 is formed in the center portion of the blank holder 230. The through-hole 231 penetrates the blank holder 230 in the pressing direction E1. The punch portion 212 can be inserted into the through-hole 231 in the pressing direction E1.

[0049] The blank holder 230 is disposed between the base 211 of the punch 210 and the sheet pressing surface 220a of the die 220. In a case where the punch 210 does not have the base 211, the biasing member 240 that supports the blank holder 230 from the counter-pressing direction E2 is supported on a foundation (not shown). In any case, the blank holder 230 is disposed to face the sheet pressing surface 220a of the die 220.

[0050] The metal sheet S that is a material for forming the press-formed article 100A can be clamped by the die 220 and the blank holder 230.

[0051] As shown in FIG. 5, in this example, the press-forming apparatus 200 includes a plurality of biasing members 240. For example, the biasing member 240

is a spring. Each of the biasing members 240 is fixed to the surface 211a of the base 211 such that the punch portion 212 is interposed between the biasing members 240 in the short side direction F. Each biasing member 240 extends in the pressing direction E1 from the base 211. Each biasing member 240 is fixed to the surface facing the counter-pressing direction E2 of the blank holder 230.

[0052] The biasing member 240 is not limited to a spring, and may be a hydraulic cylinder or the like.

[0053] The press-forming apparatus 200 does not need to include the biasing member 240. In this case, the blank holder 230 does not move, and the die 220 moves toward the blank holder 230 to clamp the metal sheet S. Thereafter, the punch 210 moves in the pressing direction E1 to perform press forming.

[Method for Producing Press-formed Article]

[0054] Next, a method for producing a press-formed article using the press-forming apparatus 200 will be described. FIG. 9 is a flowchart showing a method for producing a press-formed article S1 according to one embodiment of the present invention. The tensile strength of the metal sheet S that is used in the method for producing a press-formed article S1 is 980 MPa or more.

[0055] First, in step S5 shown in FIG. 9, as shown in FIG. 5, the metal sheet S is clamped by the die 220 and the blank holder 230 with the biasing force of the biasing member 240 (hereinafter, referred to as a clamping step S5). When the clamping step S5 is ended, the process proceeds to step S6.

[0056] Next, in step S6, as shown in FIGS. 10 and 11, the punch 210 is moved in the pressing direction E1 with respect to the die 220 to draw the metal sheet S with the press-forming apparatus 200 (hereinafter, referred to as a drawing step S6). FIG. 10 is a sectional view during the drawing step S6, and FIG. 11 is a sectional view in the last stage of the drawing step S6. As shown in FIG. 10, the metal sheet S is stretched in the pressing direction E1 by the two protrusions 213.

[0057] By performing the drawing step S6, the top sheet 10, the two protrusion portions 11, the peripheral wall 20, and the flange 30 are simultaneously formed on the metal sheet S, and the press-formed article 100A is manufactured. The two protrusion portions 11 are formed by the two protrusions 213 of the punch 210 and the two recessed portions 222 of the die 220.

[0058] When the drawing step S6 is ended, the process proceeds to step S7.

[0059] Next, in step S7, the middle portion (the portions formed in the metal sheet S by the two protrusions 213) of the top sheet 10 is removed from the press-formed article 100A by a press-forming apparatus or the like different from the press-forming apparatus 200 (hereinafter, referred to as a removal step S7). In the removal step S7, the two protrusion portions 11 in the press-formed article

100A are removed. The removal step S7 is a step that is performed after the drawing step S6.

[0060] When the removal step S7 is ended, all the steps of the method for producing a press-formed article S1 are ended, and the annular component 100 is manufactured. The method for producing a press-formed article S1 includes the clamping step S5, the drawing step S6, and the removal step S7.

[0061] In a case where the through-hole 12 is not formed in the annular component 100, or the like, the removal step S7 does not need to be performed in the method for producing a press-formed article.

[Behavior of Metal Sheet when manufacturing Press-formed Article]

[0062] In the following, with respect to each configuration of the press-formed article 100A, a configuration having no two protrusion portions 11 will be referred to as a comparative example press-formed article 100B, as shown in FIG. 12. FIG. 12 shows a process in which the metal sheet S is drawn to the comparative example press-formed article 100B. In FIG. 12 and FIG. 13 to be described later, the metal sheet S is shown with hatching to make it easier to understand deformation.

[0063] In the comparative example press-formed article 100B, the portion that is formed by the punch shoulder 212c of the punch portion 212 at the connection portion between the top sheet 10 and the peripheral wall 20 is referred to as a shoulder 14. The shoulder 14 is a convex ridge. In the shoulder 14, portions that are formed by the punch shoulder straight portions 212c1 and 212c2 and the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 of the punch shoulder 212c are referred to as shoulder straight portions 14a1 and 14a2 and a shoulder curved portion 14a3, respectively.

[0064] In the comparative example press-formed article 100B, the connection portion between the peripheral wall 20 and the flange 30 is referred to as a dent 31. The dent 31 is a concave ridge. In the dent 31, portions around an outer peripheral edge Se of the metal sheet S corresponding to the shoulder straight portions 14a1 and 14a2 and the shoulder curved portion 14a3 are referred to as dent straight portions 31a1 and 31a2 and a dent curved portion 31a3.

[0065] In FIG. 12 and FIG. 13 to be described later, the terminus of a linear arrows B1 represents the position before drawing of a certain point on an edge of each of the press-formed articles 100A and 100B, and the tip end of the linear arrow B1 represents the position to which a certain point on the edge of each of the press-formed articles 100A and 100B after forming are moved.

[0066] During the drawing, the outer peripheral edge Se of the metal sheet S indicated by a two-dot chain line moves (displaces) toward the die hole 221 at any position of the outer peripheral edge Se, as indicated by the linear arrow. Then, an element α of the metal sheet S on the dent curved portion 31a3 is compressed along the dent

curved portion 31a3, as indicated by a white arrow. In addition, an element β of the metal sheet S on the shoulder curved portion 14a3 is pulled along the shoulder curved portion 14a3, as indicated by a white arrow, and further pulled toward a center direction of the top sheet 10 from the flange 30.

[0067] That is, the element α is subjected to shrink flanging. The element β is subjected to stretch forming.

[0068] The shrink flanging referred to herein means forming in which a material such as a metal sheet is shrunk in an extension direction of a ridge when the material is drawn toward the ridge. The stretch flanging means forming in which a material is stretched in the extension direction of the ridge when the material is drawn toward the ridge.

[0069] FIG. 13 shows forming of the press-formed article 100A of the present disclosure.

[0070] In FIG. 13, white arrows B4 to B6 indicate changes in the inflow amount of the metal sheet S from FIG. 12. In FIG. 13, the white arrow B4 means that the inflow of the metal sheet S from the flange 30 toward the top sheet 10 increases because there is the protrusion portion 11 extending in the direction along the long side (the direction along the shoulder straight portion 14a2). The white arrow B5 means that the flange curved portion 33c is stretched due to the influence of the inflow of the white arrow B4. The white arrow B6 adjacent to the element α means that the shrink flanging of the element α is relaxed due to the influence of the stretching of the flange curved portion 33c.

[0071] In the press-forming apparatus 200, since the punch 210 has two protrusions 213, the inflow of the metal sheet S occurs in the initial stage of the stretch flanging or shrink flanging. When the inflow of the metal sheet S indicated by the white arrow B4 in FIG. 13 occurs, an outflow that pulls the curved portion of the outer peripheral edge Se of the metal sheet S also occurs. The occurrence of wrinkles due to the shrink flanging of the element α is suppressed due to the outflow of the curved portion of the outer peripheral edge Se of the metal sheet S. Further, the deformation resistance to the shrink flanging of the element α is relaxed. When the deformation resistance of the element α is relaxed, the inflow amount of the material toward the element β from the element α increases. As a result, the occurrence of cracking due to the stretch flanging of the element β is suppressed.

[0072] When comparing FIG. 13 with FIG. 12, it is found that due to the forming, the edges of the press-formed articles 100A and 100B are displaced toward the flange straight portions 33a and 33b from the flange curved portions 33c, as indicated by the white arrows B5 and B6. Since the shrink flanging of the element α is relaxed, it becomes difficult for wrinkles to occur in the element α . As a result of the relaxation of the shrink flanging of the element α , the inflow resistance toward the top sheet of the element β is relaxed, and it becomes difficult for cracking to occur in the element β .

[0073] In this manner, in the press-formed article 100A, strain occurring in the vicinity of the curved portions 14a3 and 31a3 can be suppressed. Therefore, it is possible to suppress a problem that is likely to occur in the vicinity of the curved portions 14a3 and 31a3 during the drawing.

[0074] Here, in the press-formed article 100A, a case where instead of the protrusion portions 11, recessed portions are formed on the first surface 10a of the top sheet 10 will be described. In this case, in the press-forming apparatus, as shown in FIG. 10, the punch 210 is formed with a recessed portion 214 instead of the protrusion 213, and the die 220 is formed with a protrusion 223 instead of the recessed portion 222. A recessed portion is formed in the press-formed article 100A by the recessed portion 214 of the punch 210 and the protrusion 223 of the die 220.

[0075] In this case, an inflow of the metal sheet S occurs at the final stage of the stretch flanging or the shrink flanging. That is, the same stretch flanging and shrink flanging as those in a case where the recessed portion 214 and the protrusion 223 are not provided occur until the final stage of the forming of the press-formed article. Further, in the final stage of the forming, since the metal sheet S is restrained by the punch 210 and the die 220, a large inflow of the metal sheet S does not occur. Instead, the metal sheet S in the vicinity of the recessed portion 214 is stretched.

[0076] As a negative effect, there is a concern that the element β may be pulled toward the top sheet 10 due to the recessed portions 214 and cracking may occur.

[Examination of each Parameter when manufacturing Press-Formed Article]

[0077] In the following, the results of the examination of each parameter when manufacturing the press-formed article will be described.

[0078] Here, as shown in FIG. 2, the distance from a center 10c of the top sheet 10 in the direction along the long side to a tip end 11a on the first side of the protrusion portion 11 in the direction along the long side is defined as a distance D_e . The distance from the center 10c of the top sheet 10 to a boundary P1 between the shoulder straight portion 14a2 and the shoulder curved portion 14a3 is defined as a distance D_s .

[0079] A sheet thickness before drawing at a predetermined portion of the metal sheet S (the press-formed article 100A) is defined as t_b , and a sheet thickness after drawing is defined as t_a . A sheet thickness reduction rate r of the predetermined portion is defined as $(t_b - t_a)/t_b$.

[0080] In a case where the sheet thickness reduction rate r is a positive value, this means that the sheet thickness of the predetermined portion decreases, and in a case where the sheet thickness reduction rate r is a negative value, this means that the sheet thickness of the predetermined portion increases.

[0081] From another viewpoint, in a case where forming in which a metal sheet crosses a curved ridge of the

die and the punch is performed, a portion where the sheet thickness reduction rate r is a positive value means that it is subjected to stretch flanging, and a portion where the sheet thickness reduction rate r is a negative value means that it is subjected to shrink flanging.

[0082] The sheet thickness reduction rate r of the press-formed article 100A is defined as a sheet thickness reduction rate r_a , and the sheet thickness reduction rate r of the comparative example press-formed article 100B is defined as a sheet thickness reduction rate r_b . In addition, the sheet thickness reduction rate ratio is defined as $(r_b - r_a)/r_b$.

[0083] In the examined case, the depth of the protrusion portion 11 in the press-formed article 100A was set to 10 mm. A drawing depth by drawing, that is, the distance from the flange 30 to the second surface 10b of the top sheet 10 was set to 50 mm. The radius of curvature of the shoulder curved portion 14a3 was set to 90 mm. The angle formed by the second surface 10b of the top sheet 10 and the peripheral wall 20 was set to 100° .

[0084] The sheet thickness reduction rate ratios were measured at points t_1 to t_4 in the press-formed article 100A shown in FIG. 2.

[0085] FIG. 14 is a diagram showing a relationship between the value of (D_e/D_s) and the sheet thickness reduction rate ratio.

[0086] With respect to several cases in which the position of the tip end in the direction along the long side of the protrusion portion 11 of the press-formed article 100A was changed, the improvement effect of the sheet thickness reduction rate ratio of each portion (t_1 to t_4) before and after the drawing shown in FIG. 2 was verified. When the position of the tip end is changed, the value of (D_e/D_s) changes.

[0087] In FIG. 13, in a case where the sheet thickness reduction rate ratio is a positive value, this means that deformation due to inflow shrink flanging or stretch flanging outflow is relaxed due to the protrusion portion 11. In a case where the sheet thickness reduction rate ratio is a negative value, this means that the amount of inflow or outflow deformation increases due to the protrusion portion 11.

[0088] In a case where the value of (D_e/D_s) was 0.8 or more, it was found that an increase in sheet thickness reduction rate ratio was significant. That is, it was found that in a case where the tip end 11a of the protrusion portion 11 is closer to the first side in the direction along the long side, a change in sheet thickness before and after the drawing is relaxed and improved.

[0089] FIG. 7 shows a cross section of the protrusion portion 11 orthogonal to the direction along the long side, in which the depth H_p in the protrusion portion 11 is the maximum. The extension length of the surface of the protrusion portion 11 in the cross section is defined as a promotion line length L_p . The length between both ends of the cross section of the protrusion portion 11 is defined as a reference line length L_s . The ratio of the promotion line length L_p to the reference line length L_s is defined as

a line length ratio (L_p/L_s).

[0090] FIG. 15 shows a change in sheet thickness reduction rate ratio with respect to the line length ratio (L_p/L_s). From FIG. 15, it is found that in a case where the line length ratio (L_p/L_s) is more than 1.20, the sheet thickness reduction rate ratio increases. That is, in a case where the line length ratio (L_p/L_s) is more than 1.20, a change in sheet thickness before and after the drawing is relaxed.

[0091] Therefore, it is preferable that the line length ratio (L_p/L_s) of the protrusion portion 11 of the press-formed article 100A is more than 1.20. In other words, it is preferable that the ratio of the protrusion line length L_p of the protrusion portion 11 to the reference line length L_s is more than 1.20.

[0092] FIG. 16 shows a change in sheet thickness reduction rate ratio with respect to the depth H_p of the protrusion portion 11.

[0093] From FIG. 16, it was found that it is more preferable that the protrusion portion 11 has a cross section in which the depth H_p is 10 mm or more.

[Effects of the Present Embodiment]

[0094] As described above, in the press-forming apparatus 200 of the present embodiment, the press-formed article 100A is manufactured by the punch 210, the die 220, and the blank holder 230. At that time, a portion adjacent to the punch shoulder curved portion 212c3 in the top surface 212a convexly protrudes toward the outside of the top surface 212a, and there are two protrusions 213 on the top surface 212a of the punch portion 212. Therefore, for example, when the metal sheet S is subjected to drawing, the two protrusions 213 of the punch 210 pull the portions of the metal sheet S which serve as the curved portions 14a3 and 31a3 of the press-formed article 100A.

[0095] Therefore, when the press-formed article 100A is manufactured by the press-forming apparatus 200, it is possible to suppress a problem such as wrinkles or cracking occurring in the curved portions 14a3 and 31a3 of the press-formed article 100A.

[0096] There is a case where the interval between the tip end of the protrusion 213 and the center of the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2 is 40% or more of the length in the long side direction G of the punch shoulder straight portion 212c2. This corresponds to a case where D_e/D_s in FIG. 14 is 0.8 or more. In this case, it is possible to relax a change in sheet thickness due to press forming.

[0097] There is a case where the tip end on the first side G1 in the long side direction G of the protrusion 213 is located between the first straight line M1 and the second straight line M2. In this case, the inflow of the metal sheet S from the flange curved portion 33c to the flange straight portions 33a and 33b can be increased, and an increase in strain in the flange curved portion 33c, which occurs due to the drawing, can be suppressed. Therefore, the occurrence of a problem such as cracking or wrinkles in

the curved portions 14a3 and 31a3 of the annular component 100 can be suppressed.

[0098] In a cross section crossing the longitudinal direction of the protrusion 213, there is a case where the length of the surface of the protrusion 213 is larger than 1.2 times the width in the short side direction F of the protrusion 213. This corresponds to a case where L_p/L_s in FIG. 15 is 1.2 or more. In this case, it is possible to relax a change in sheet thickness due to press forming.

[0099] There is a case where the angle θ_1 formed by the surface of the tip end portion in the long side direction G of the protrusion 213 and the pressing direction E1 is 30° or larger. In this case, it is possible to suppress the occurrence of local strain due to the forming itself of the protrusion portion 11, and to make the metal sheet S smoothly flow along the top sheet 10 from the flange curved portion 33c toward the flange straight portions 33a and 33b. Therefore, it is possible to manufacture the annular component 100 in which the occurrence of a problem in the curved portions 14a3 and 31a3 is suppressed.

[0100] There is a case where the centroid of the top surface 212a of the punch portion 212 is located inside the top portion of 20% or more of the height in the pressing direction E1 of the protrusion 213. In this case, the material inflow amount can be increased over the whole circumference of the annular ridge 213c.

[0101] There is a case where the angle θ_2 formed by the punch shoulder straight portions 212c1 and 212c2 is an acute angle. In this case, a change in sheet thickness due to the press forming becomes larger than in a case where the normal formed angle θ_2 is a right angle, so that the effect of the present disclosure is further manifested.

[0102] In addition, in the press-forming apparatus 200 of the present embodiment, the clamping step S5 and the drawing step S6 are performed. In addition, when the tensile strength of the metal sheet S is 980 MPa or more, since the problem due to the change in sheet thickness due to the press forming is manifested, the effect of the present disclosure is further manifested.

[0103] By performing the removal step S7 after the drawing step S6, the middle portion of the top sheet 10 can be removed from the press-formed article 100A to manufacture the annular component 100.

[Modification Examples of Press-formed Article and Annular Component]

[0104] As shown in FIG. 17, a press-formed article 101A of a first modification example includes one protrusion portion 11 with respect to the two protrusion portions 11 in each configuration of the press-formed article 100A of the present embodiment.

[0105] With respect to the press-formed article 101A, a relationship between the value of (D_e/D_s) and the sheet thickness reduction rate ratio was obtained and the result is shown in FIG. 18. It was found that even in the press-formed article 101A having one protrusion portion 11, the

same effects as the press-formed article 100A having two protrusion portions 11 are obtained.

[0106] As shown in FIG. 19, a press-formed article 101B of a second modification example includes three protrusion portions 11 with respect to the two protrusion portions 11 in each configuration of the press-formed article 100A of the present embodiment. The three protrusion portions 11 are disposed at intervals in the direction along the short side.

[0107] As shown in FIG. 20, a press-formed article 101C of a third modification example includes four protrusion portions 11 with respect to the two protrusion portions 11 in each configuration of the press-formed article 100A of the present embodiment. One set of protrusion portions 11 composed of two protrusion portions 11 among the four protrusion portions 11 are arranged side by side to be spaced apart from each other in the direction along the long side. Two sets of protrusion portions 11 are arranged side by side to be spaced apart from each other in the direction along the short side.

[0108] That is, when the protrusion portion 11 extends along the shoulder straight portion 14a2 from a portion adjacent to the shoulder curved portion 14a3 in the shoulder straight portions 14a2 adjacent to the outside of the top sheet 10, the effect of relaxing the shrink flanging of the flange curved portion 33c is obtained. At this time, the protrusion portion 11 does not need to necessarily extend to the center portion of the shoulder straight portion 14a2.

[0109] As shown in FIG. 21, a top sheet 40 of a press-formed article 101D of a fourth modification example has a triangular shape with rounded corners when viewed in the thickness direction of the top sheet 40.

[0110] One protrusion portion 41 is formed on the top sheet 40. The protrusion portion 41 has a triangular shape with rounded corners similar to the shape of the top sheet 40 when viewed in the thickness direction of the top sheet 40.

[0111] That is, even in a configuration as in the press-formed article 101D, the inflow of the metal sheet S similar to the white arrow B4 in FIG. 13 can be caused.

[0112] Even with the press-formed articles 101A, 101B, 101C, and 101D of the modification examples configured as described above, the same effects as those of the press-formed article 100A of the present embodiment can be obtained.

[0113] As shown in FIG. 22, a top sheet 45 of an annular component 102A of the first modification example has an elliptical shape when viewed in the thickness direction of the top sheet 45. A through-hole 46 penetrating the top sheet 45 in the thickness direction of the top sheet 45 is formed in the top sheet 45.

[0114] As shown in FIG. 23, a top sheet 50 of an annular component 102B of the second modification example has a triangular shape with rounded corners when viewed in the thickness direction of the top sheet 50.

[0115] As shown in FIG. 24, a top sheet 55 of an

annular component 102C of the third modification example has a pentagon shape when viewed in the thickness direction of the top sheet 55.

[0116] Although one embodiment of the present invention has been described in detail above with reference to the drawings, specific configurations are not limited to the embodiment, and modifications, combinations, deletions, and the like in the configurations may be made without departing from the gist of the present invention.

[Industrial Applicability]

[0117] According to the present invention, it is possible to provide a press-forming apparatus and a method for producing a press-formed article, in which it is possible to suppress a problem occurring in a curved portion of a formed article. Therefore, great industrial applicability is achieved.

[Brief Description of the Reference Symbols]

[0118]

200; press-forming apparatus

210: punch

212a: top surface

212b: side surface

212c: punch shoulder

212c1, 212c2: punch shoulder straight portion

212c3: punch shoulder curved portion

213: protrusion

220: die

220a: sheet pressing surface

230: blank holder

E1: pressing direction

G: long side direction (direction along a long side, extension direction)

L1: interval

M1; first straight line

M2; second straight line

S; metal sheet

S1: method for producing a press-formed article

S5: clamping step

S6: drawing step

S7: removal step

01, 02: formed angle

Claims

1. A press-forming apparatus comprising:

a punch;

a die; and

a blank holder,

wherein the punch has a top surface, a side surface, and a punch shoulder disposed between the top surface and the side surface,

- the punch shoulder has a punch shoulder straight portion extending with a radius of curvature of 500 mm or more and a punch shoulder curved portion extending with a radius of curvature of less than 500 mm,
a portion adjacent to the punch shoulder curved portion in the top surface convexly protrudes toward an outside of the top surface,
the top surface has a protrusion protruding in a pressing direction,
the protrusion extends along an extension direction in which the punch shoulder straight portion extends,
a bottom surface of a die hole of the die has a shape corresponding to the top surface, and the blank holder is disposed to face a sheet pressing surface of the die.
2. The press-forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when viewed from the pressing direction, an interval in the extension direction between a tip end of the protrusion in the extension direction and a center of the punch shoulder straight portion is 40% or more of a length of the punch shoulder straight portion in the extension direction.
3. The press-forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein when viewed from the pressing direction, the tip end of the protrusion is located between a first straight line passing between the punch shoulder straight portion and the punch shoulder curved portion and perpendicular to the extension direction and a second straight line passing through a center portion of the punch shoulder curved portion and parallel to the first straight line.
4. The press-forming apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein in a cross section passing through the protrusion and perpendicular to the extension direction, a length of a surface of the protrusion is larger than 1.2 times a width of the protrusion perpendicular to the pressing direction.
5. The press-forming apparatus according to any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein in a cross section passing through the protrusion and along each of the pressing direction and the extension direction, an angle formed by a surface of a tip end portion of the protrusion in the extension direction and the pressing direction is 30° or larger.
6. The press-forming apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein when viewed from the pressing direction, a centroid of the top surface is located inside a top portion of 20% or more of a height in the pressing direction of the protrusion.
7. The press-forming apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein an angle formed by two punch shoulder straight portions located on both sides of the punch shoulder curved portion is an acute angle.
8. A method for producing a press-formed article using the press-forming apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 7, the method comprising:
clamping a metal sheet by using the die and the blank holder; and
drawing the metal sheet with the press-forming apparatus,
wherein tensile strength of the metal sheet is 980 MPa or more.
9. The method for producing a press-formed article according to claim 8, further comprising:
removing a portion formed in the metal sheet by the protrusion.

FIG. 1

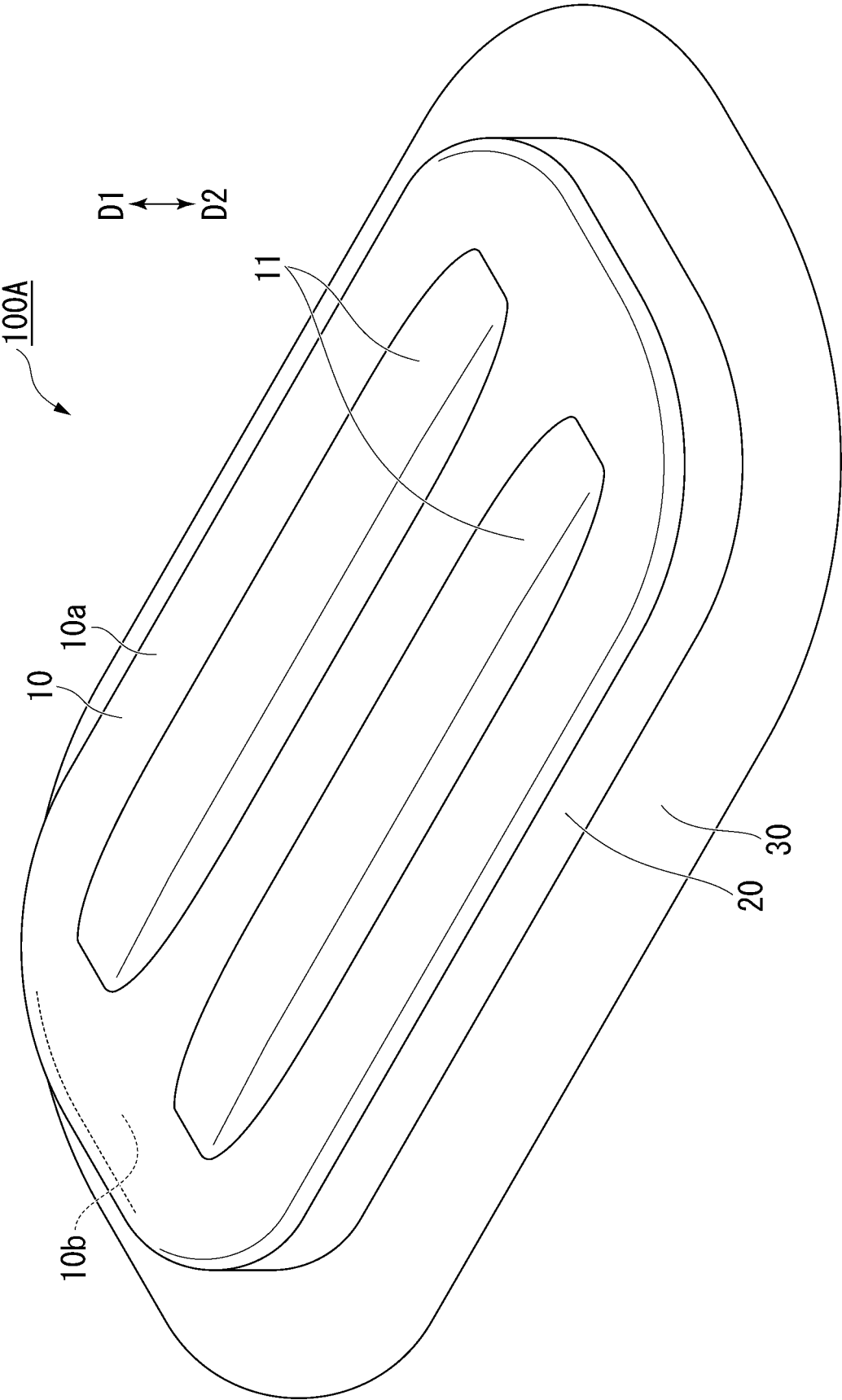


FIG. 2

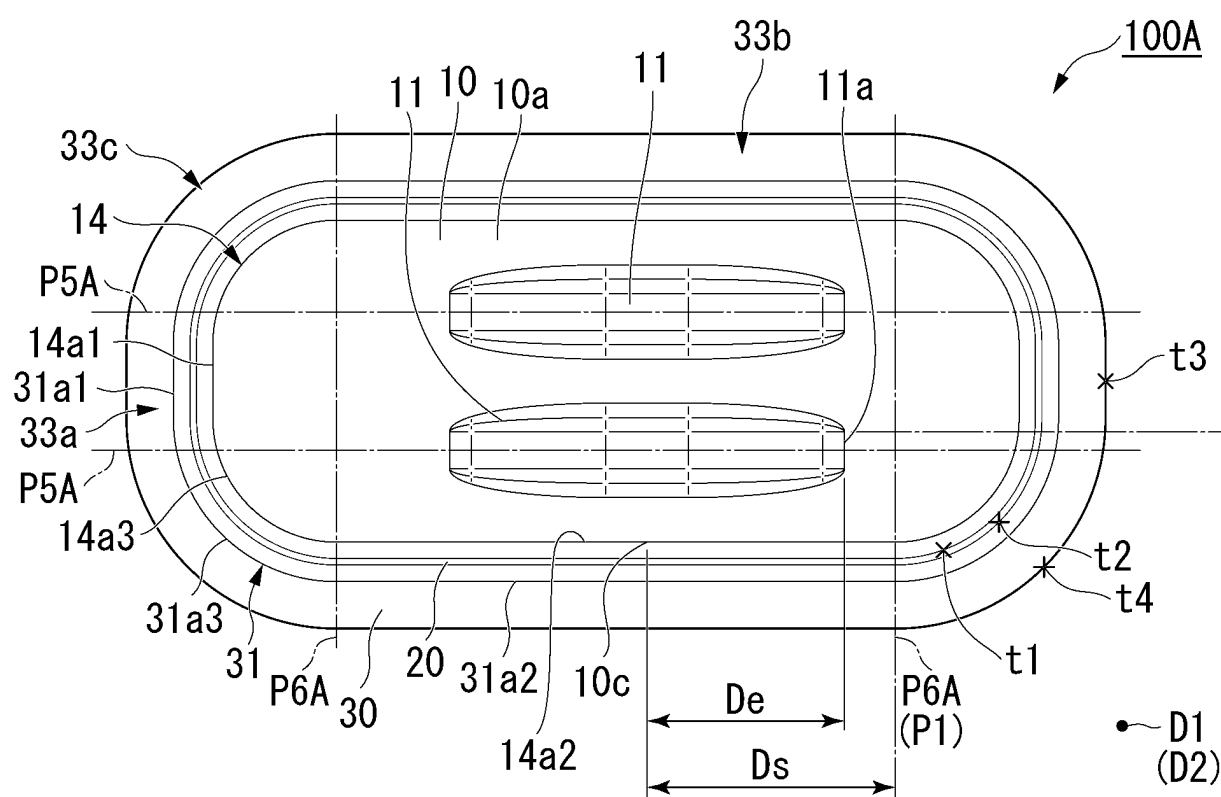


FIG. 3

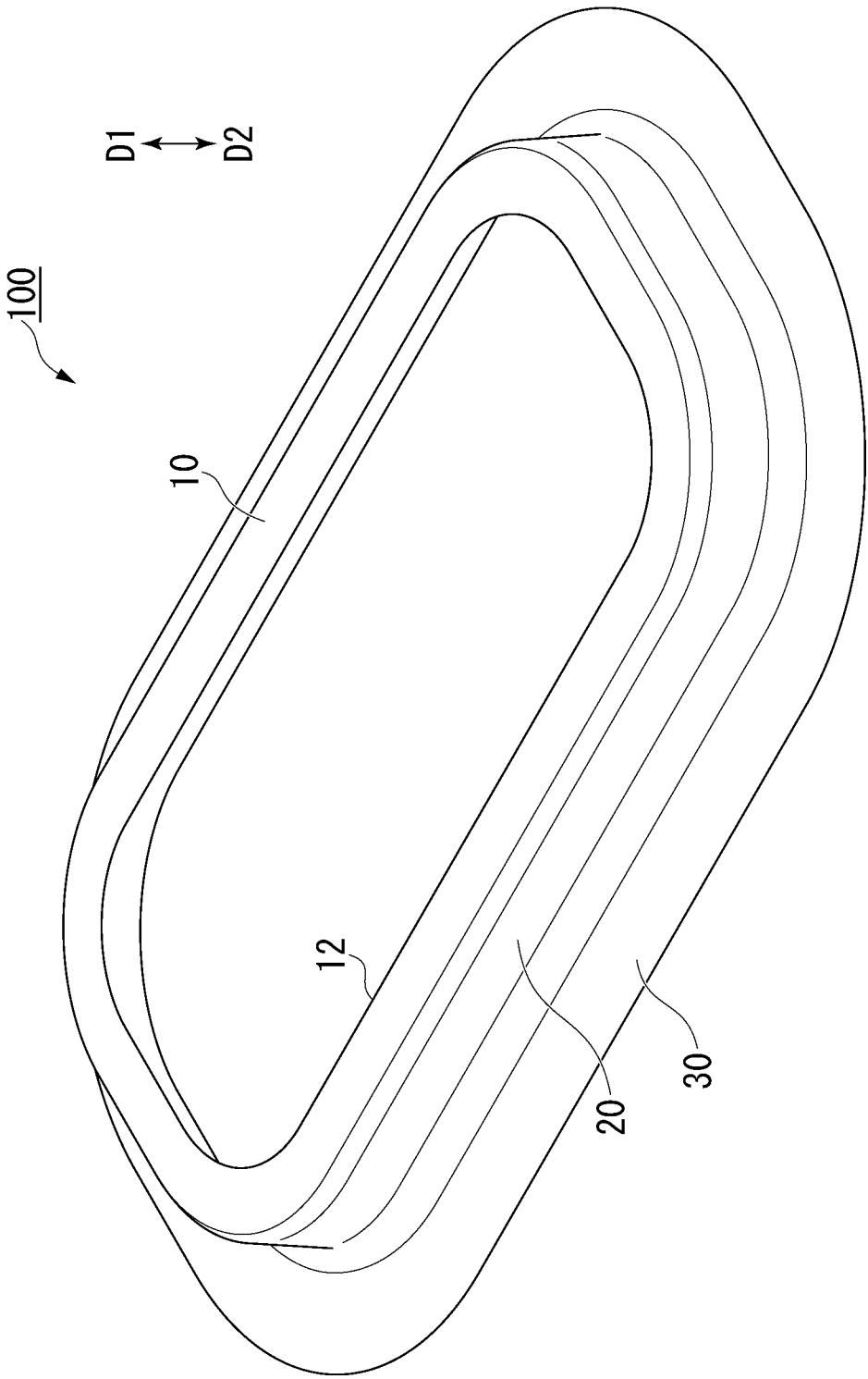


FIG. 4

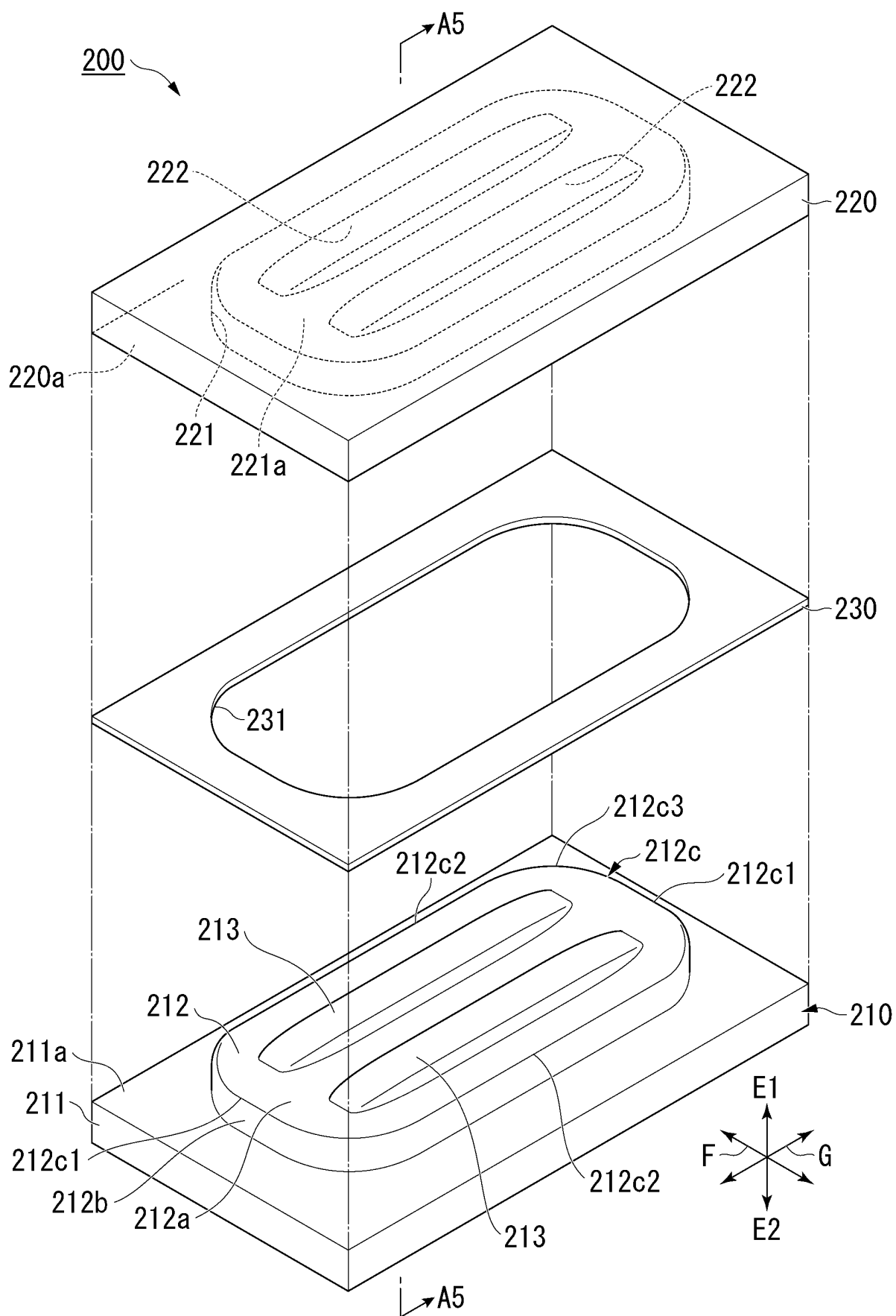


FIG. 5

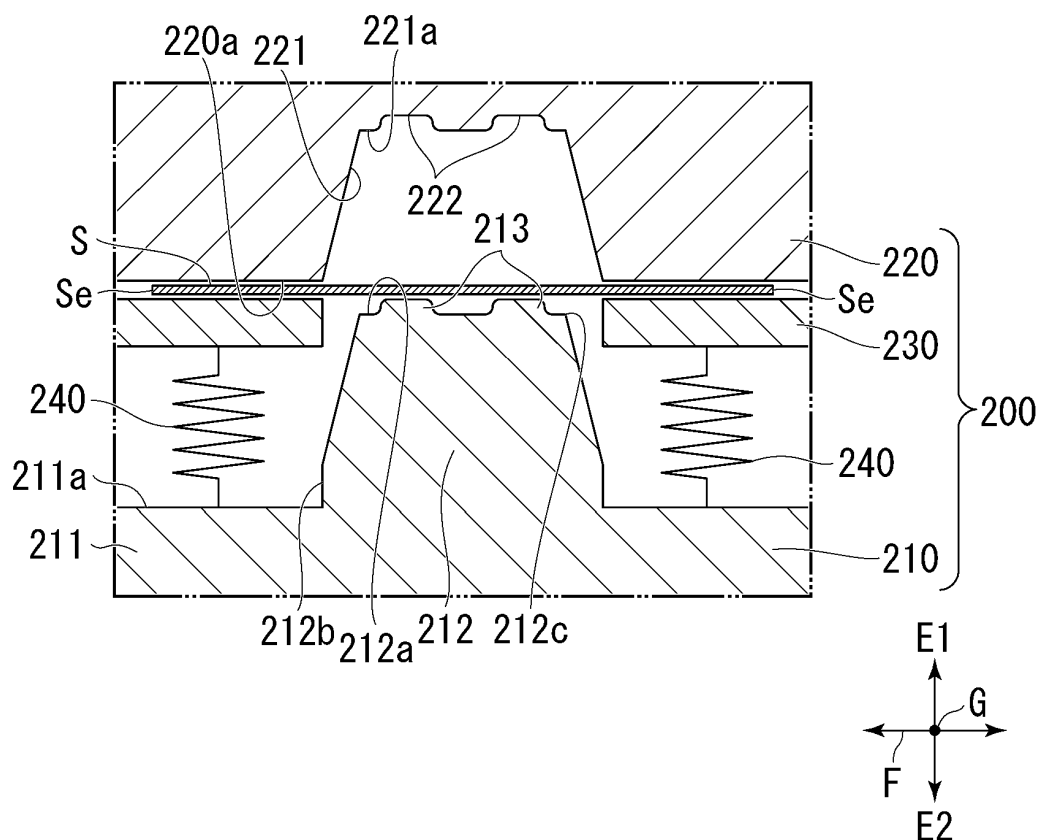


FIG. 6

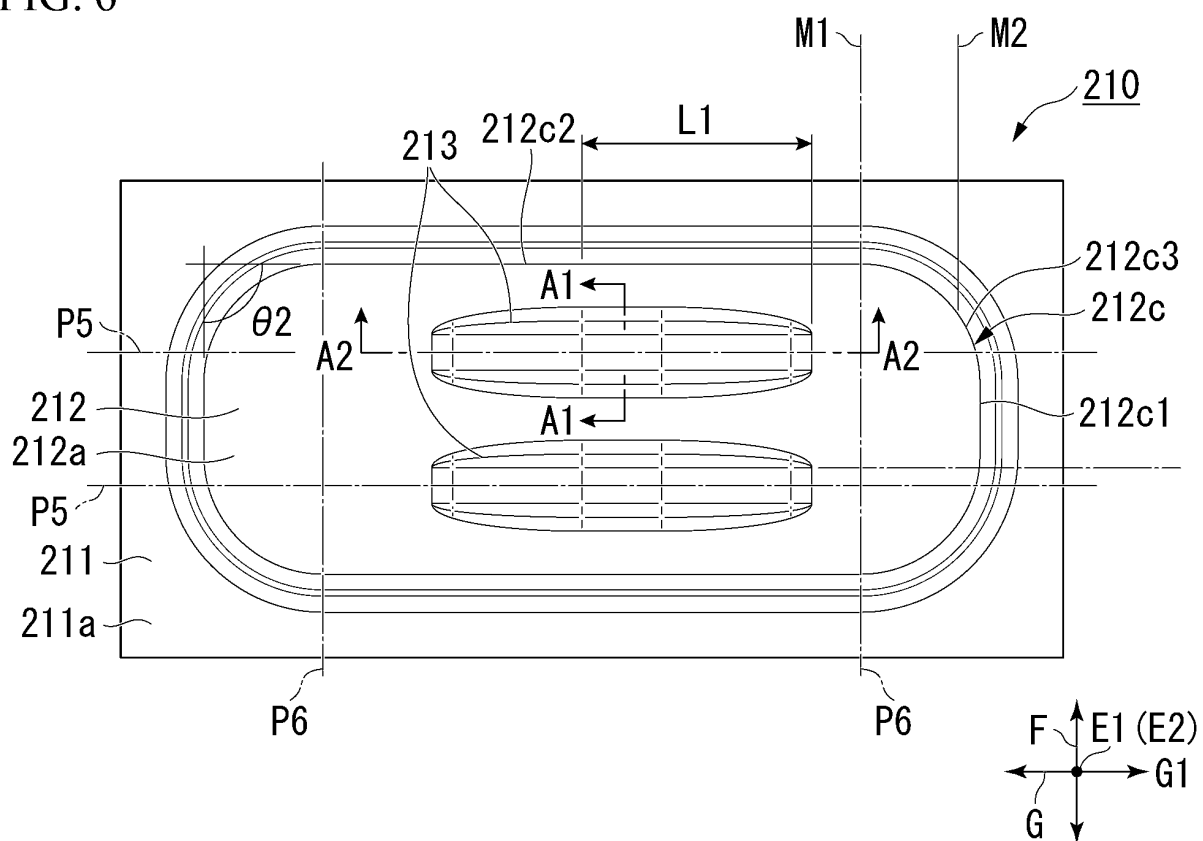


FIG. 7

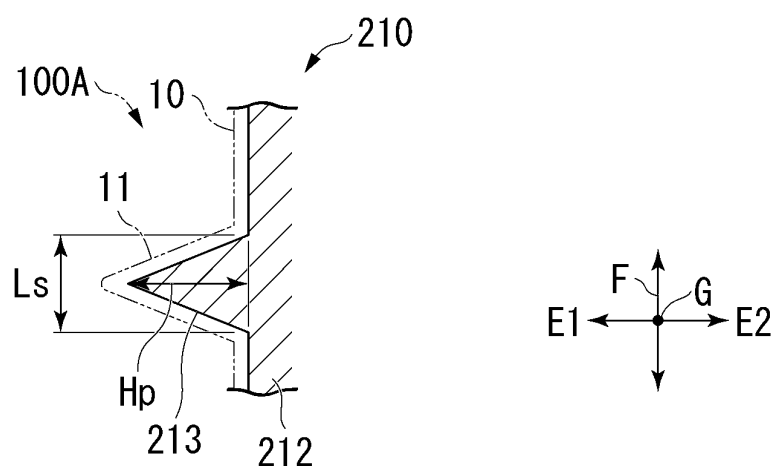


FIG. 8

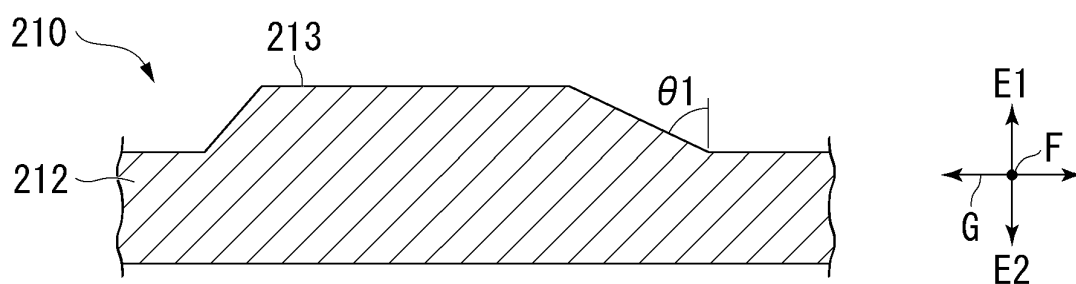


FIG. 9

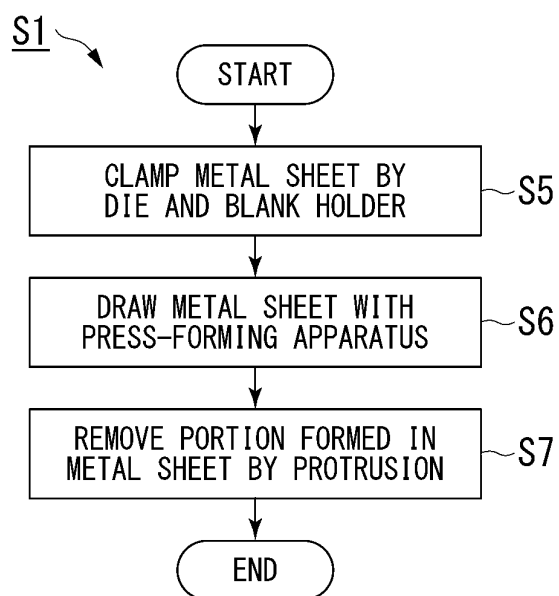


FIG. 10

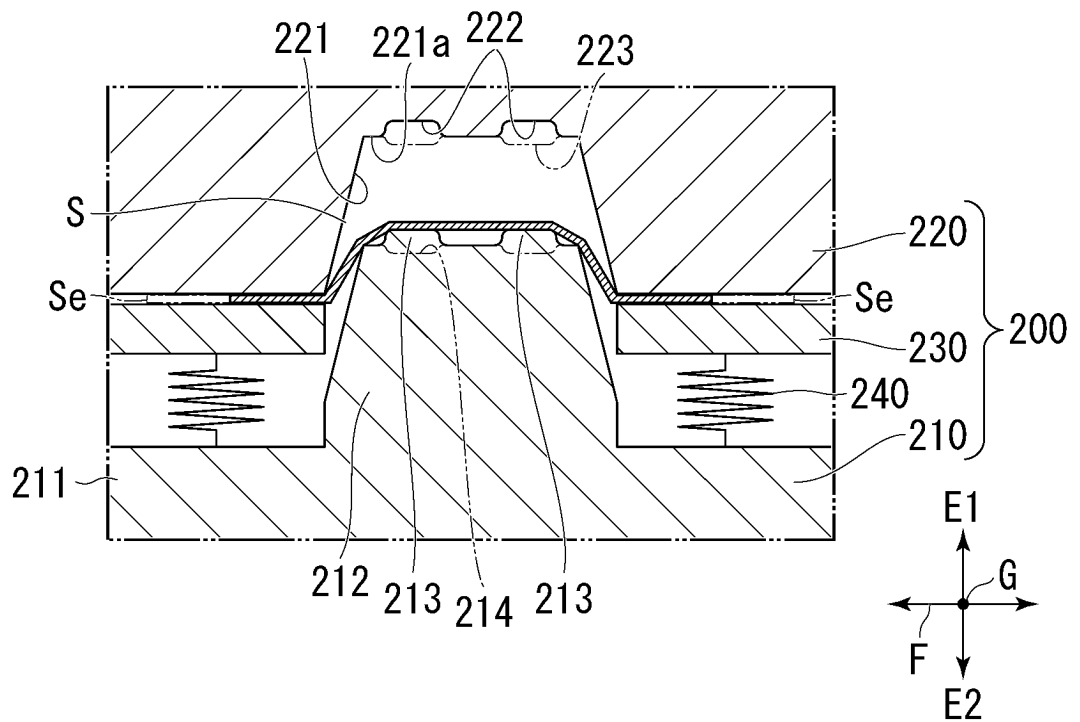


FIG. 11

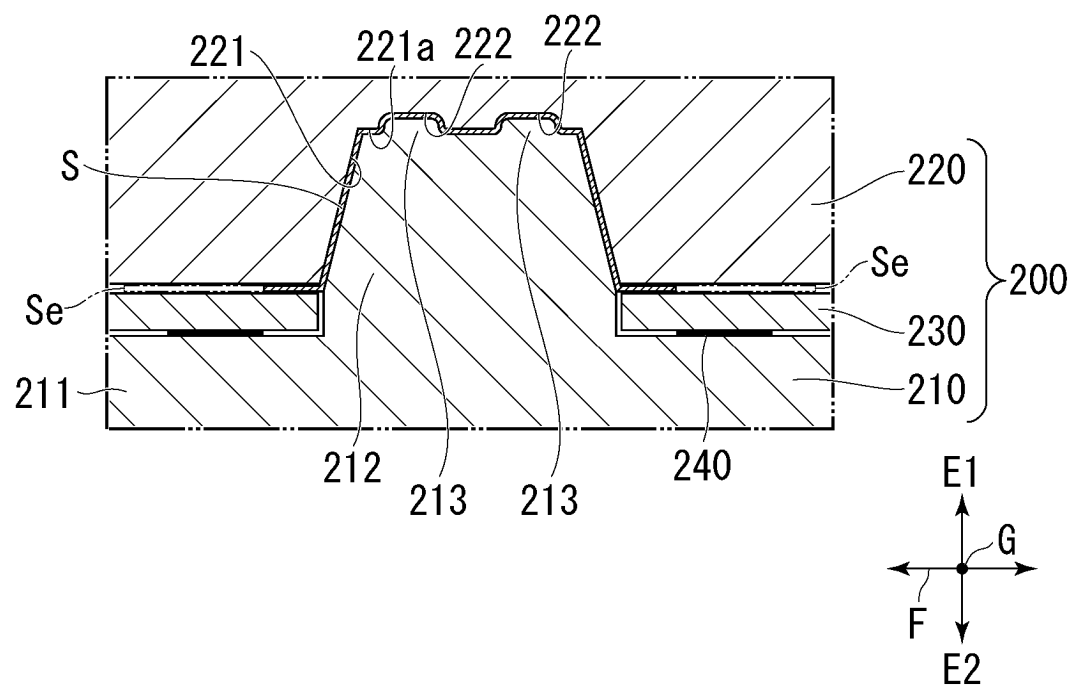


FIG. 12

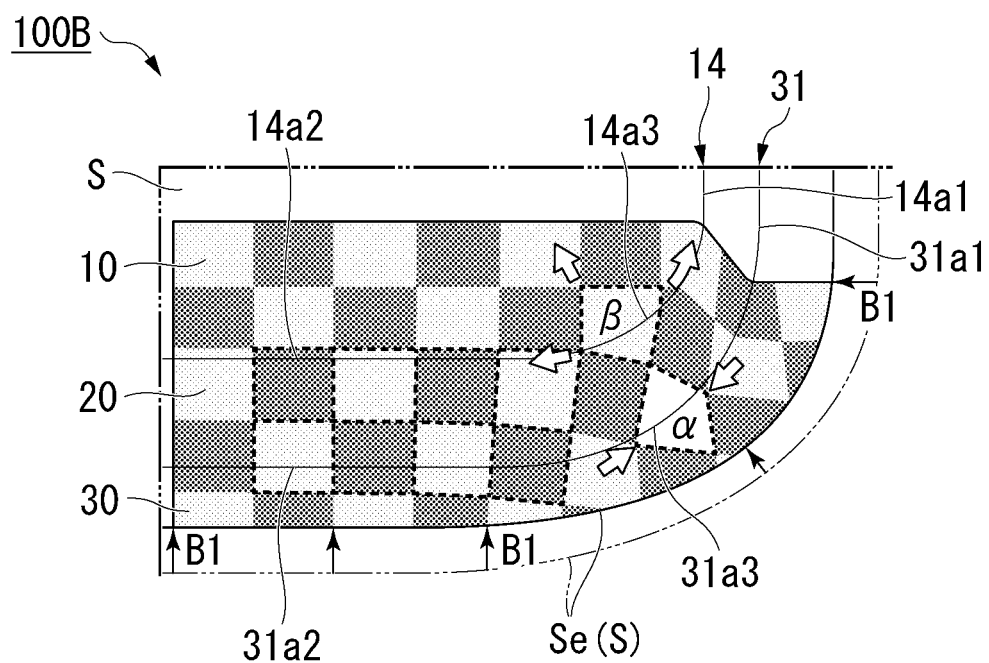


FIG. 13

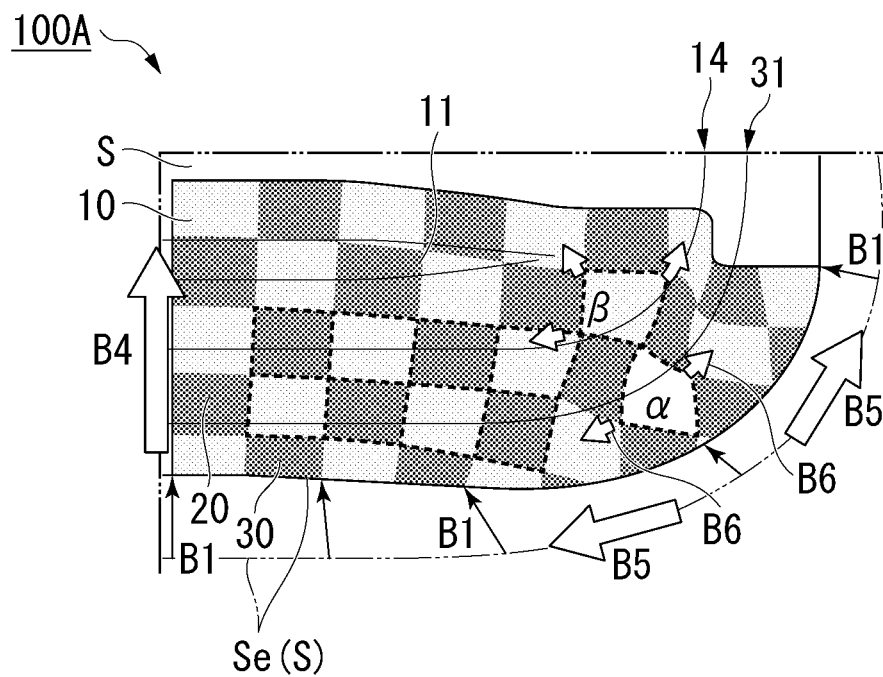


FIG. 14

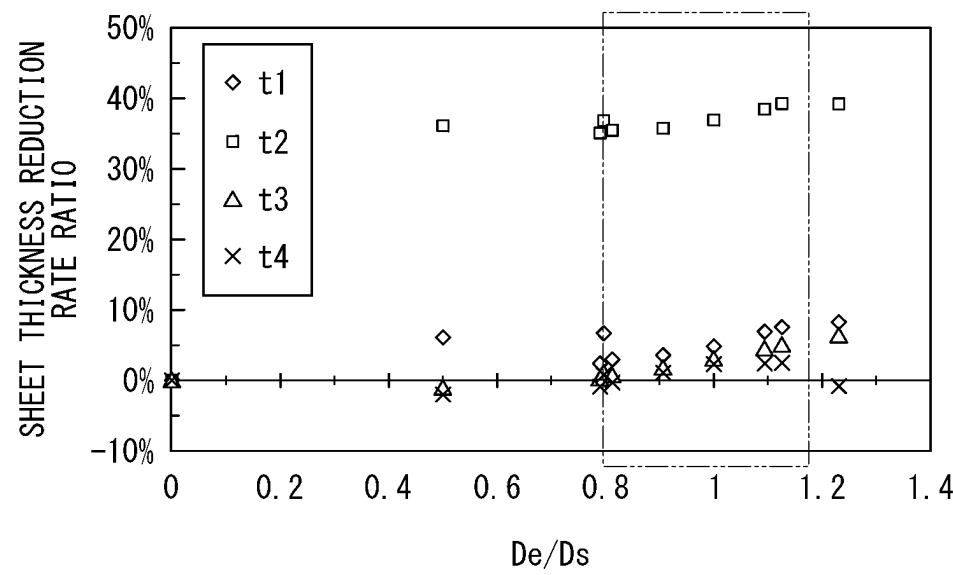


FIG. 15

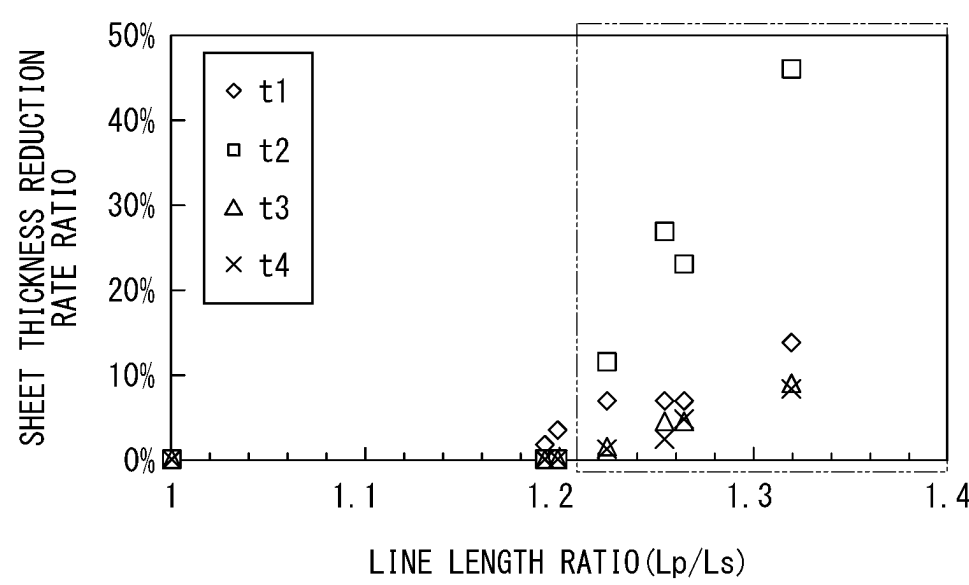


FIG. 16

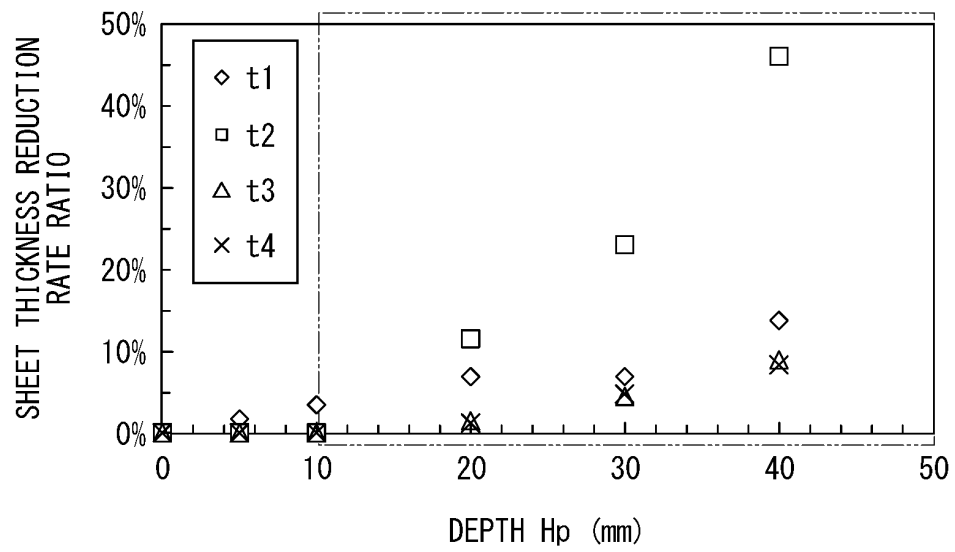


FIG. 17

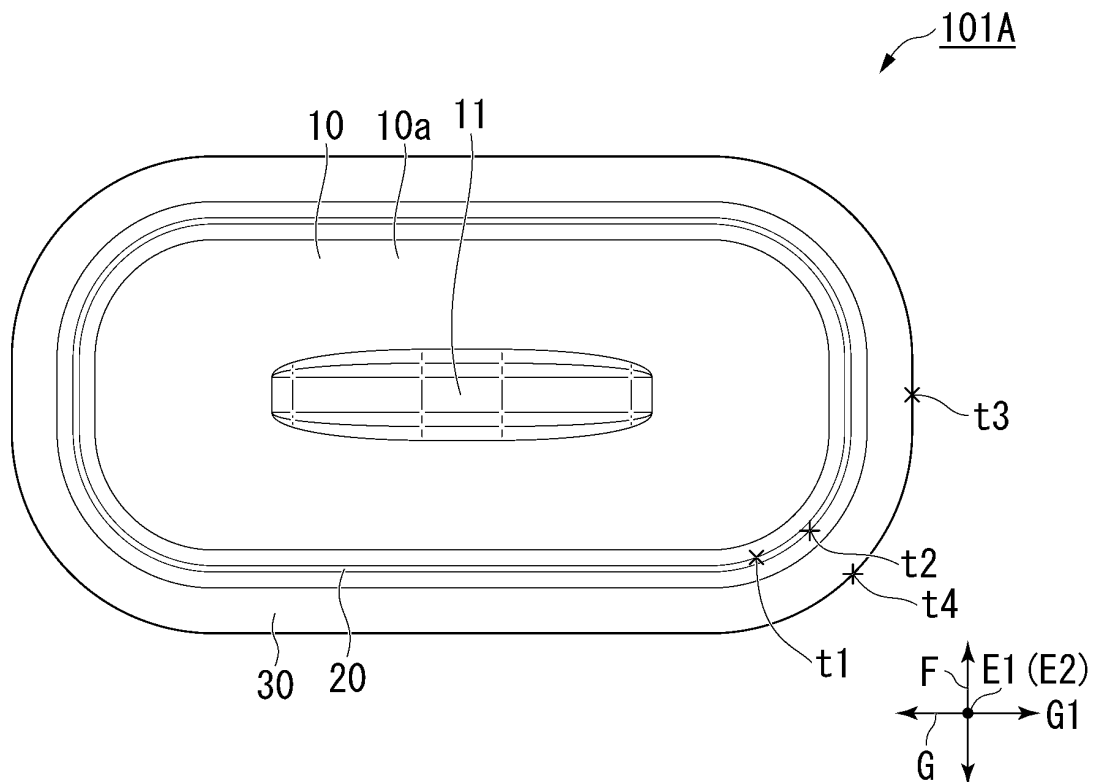


FIG. 18

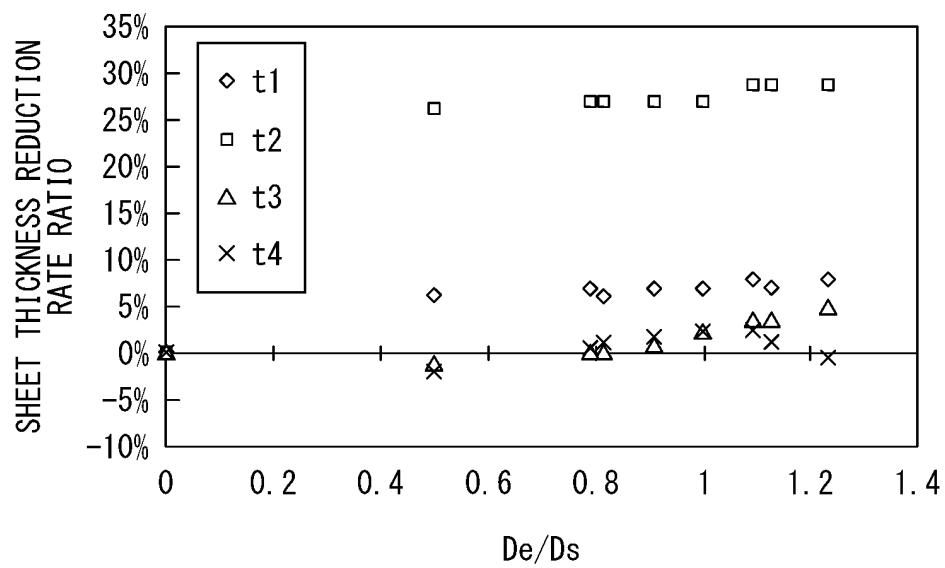


FIG. 19

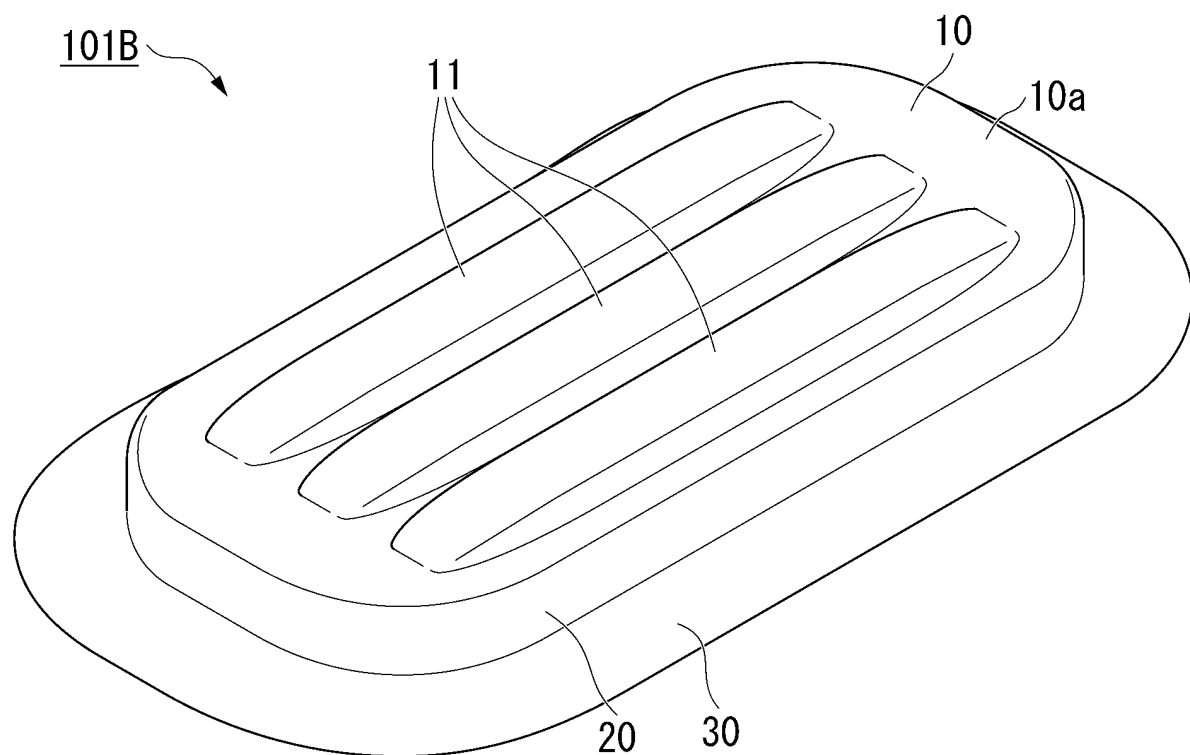


FIG. 20

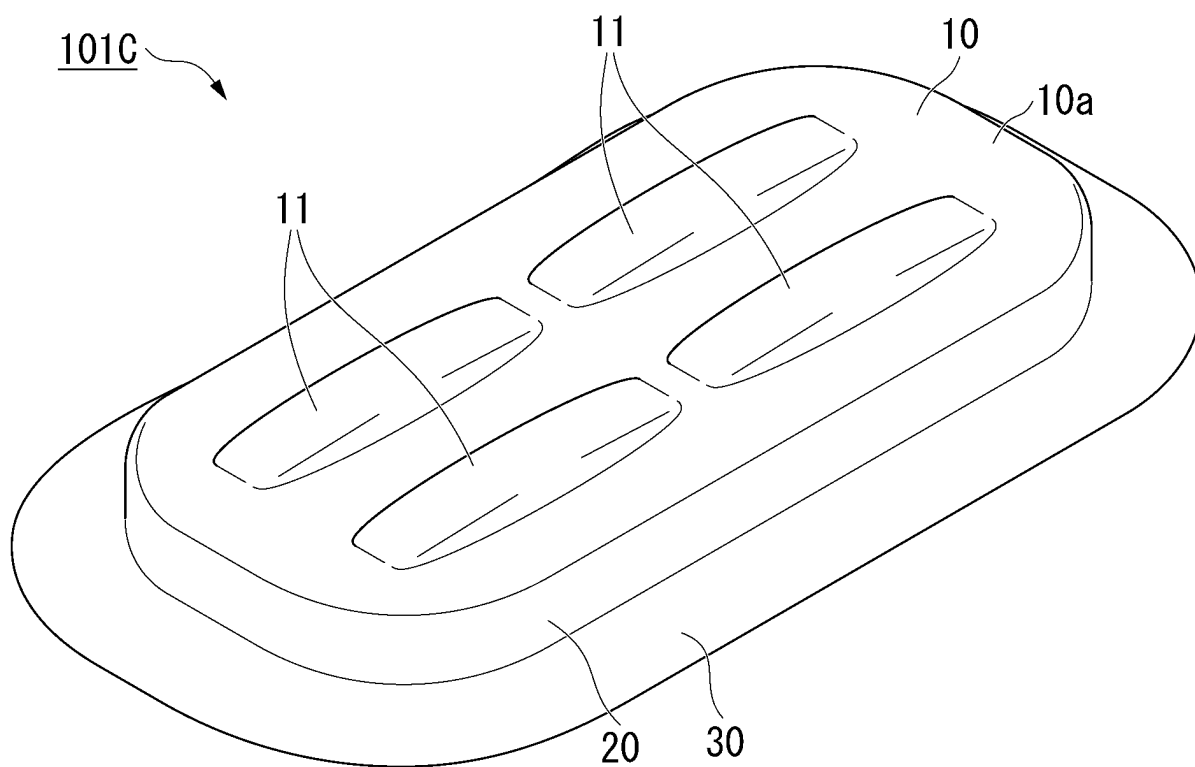


FIG. 21

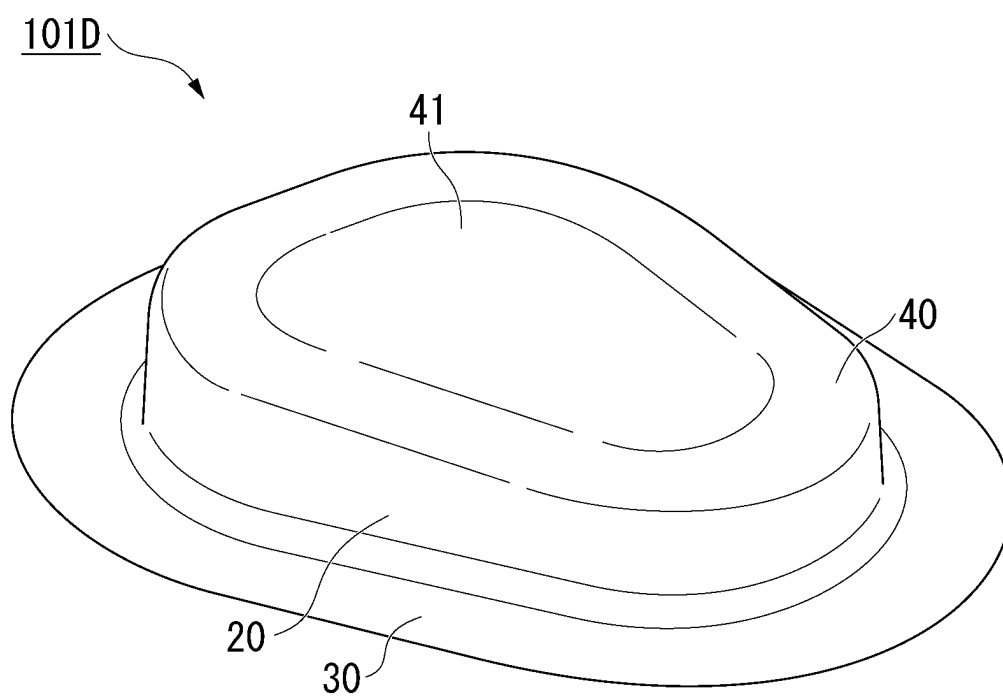


FIG. 22

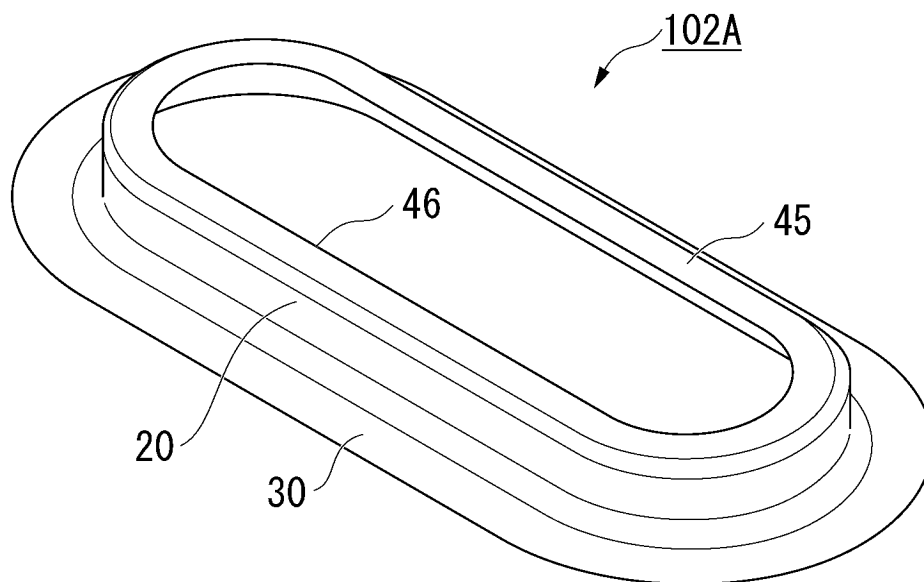


FIG. 23

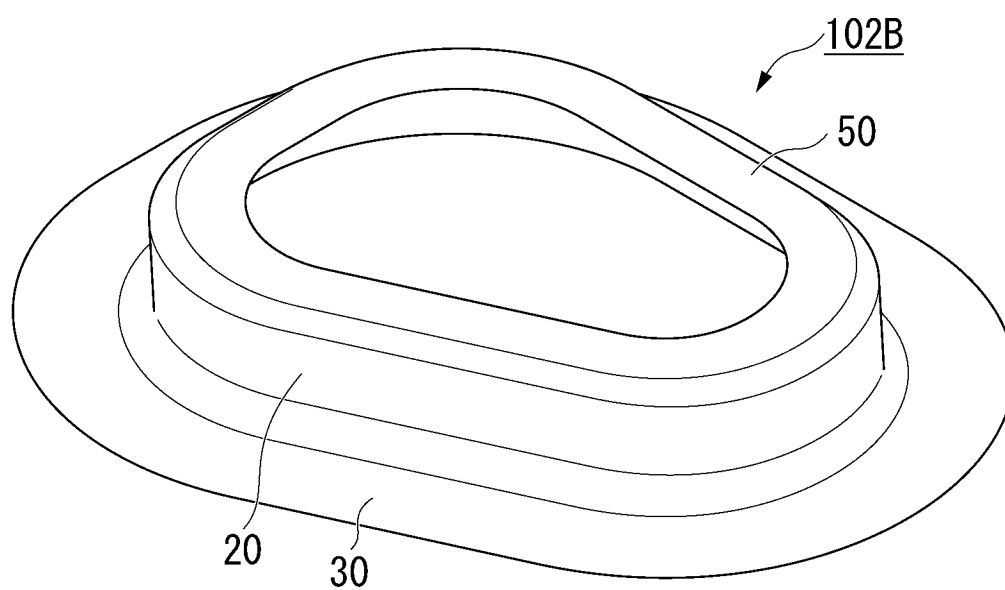
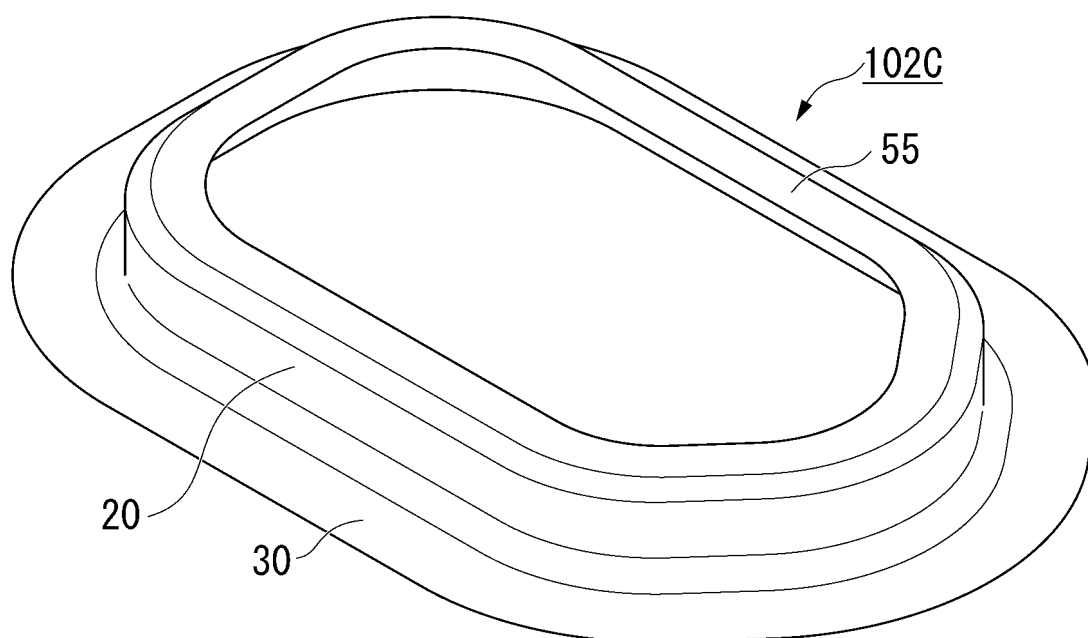


FIG. 24



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2023/003198

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

B21D 22/26(2006.01)i; **B21D 22/30**(2006.01)i
FI: B21D22/26 D; B21D22/30 B

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
B21D22/26; B21D22/30

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Published examined utility model applications of Japan 1922-1996
Published unexamined utility model applications of Japan 1971-2023
Registered utility model specifications of Japan 1996-2023
Published registered utility model applications of Japan 1994-2023

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 6614160 B2 (NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION) 04 December 2019 (2019-12-04)	1-9
A	WO 2017/159783 A1 (NIPPON STEEL & SUMITOMO METAL CORPORATION) 21 September 2017 (2017-09-21)	1-9
A	JP 7-41333 B2 (KANEMITSU KK) 10 May 1995 (1995-05-10)	1-9
A	Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 165146/1985 (Laid-open No. 72726/1987) (NISSAN MOTOR) 09 May 1987 (1987-05-09)	1-9

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

“A” document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

“E” earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

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“O” document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

“P” document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

“T” later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

“X” document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

“Y” document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

“&” document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 February 2023

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 March 2023

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Japan Patent Office (ISA/JP)
3-4-3 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8915
Japan

Authorized officer

Telephone No.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT Information on patent family members				International application No. PCT/JP2023/003198		
Patent document cited in search report		Publication date (day/month/year)		Patent family member(s)		Publication date (day/month/year)
JP	6614160	B2	04 December 2019	US	2018/0001368	A1
				WO	2016/103682	A1
				EP	3238845	A1
				CN	107107149	A
				KR	10-2017-0098302	A
WO	2017/159783	A1	21 September 2017	US	2019/0084025	A1
				EP	3431204	A1
				KR	10-2018-0110077	A
				CN	108778550	A
JP	7-41333	B2	10 May 1995	(Family: none)		
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REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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